



Brownfields 2006 Grant Fact Sheet

Oshkosh, WI

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Oshkosh was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant, and two brownfields cleanup grants. Located on the western edge of Lake Winnebago along the Fox River in eastern Wisconsin, Oshkosh (population 62,916) has a long history of manufacturing and industrial uses on the banks of the river. Today its unemployment rate is higher than the state's, due to the closing or downsizing of several manufacturing businesses. Almost half the population is designated as having low-to-moderate incomes. There are more than 200 brownfields in the central city and riverfront area that have affected the value of properties in the surrounding neighborhoods. Other effects of brownfields on the community are a reduced tax base, inefficient use of land, and incompatible and conflicting land uses. When brownfields are assessed



Assessment Grant

New
2006

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Oshkosh for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to perform Phase I and II environmental site assessments and develop cleanup plans for sites throughout the community, including downtown Oshkosh and the historic industrial corridor. Funds also will be used for community outreach.

Cleanup Grants

New
2006

\$200,000 for hazardous substances
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of Oshkosh for two brownfields cleanup grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the Mercury Marine property at 449 and 455 Marion Road. This property is contaminated with volatile organic compounds, benzene, vinyl chloride, and trichloroethylene. The brownfield was used for industrial purposes since 1890, including lumber, candle, concrete, and boat engine operations. Petroleum grant funds will be used to clean up Parcel J of the Murphy Concrete and Construction property at 411 Marion Road and 25 Jackson Street. This brownfield is contaminated with petroleum products. The site was used as a sawmill, lumber yard, machine shop, coal yard, roofing company, and concrete batch plant. Grant funds also will be used for community outreach.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
312-886-7576
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

and eventually cleaned up, they will be redeveloped to convert under-performing properties to productive uses that will expand the city's tax base. A planned Five Rivers Convention Center will include commercial and recreation uses. Brownfields redevelopment will create jobs, increase the tax base, encourage a more vibrant downtown area, and make the Fox River more accessible to the public through the use of public parks and open space.

Grant Recipient: City of Oshkosh, WI
920-236-5057

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.